

## High Holidays 5756 News

### Onegs and Break Fast

Join us for an oneg after Erev Rosh Hashanah services at the Unitarian Center. In place of an oneg after Rosh Hashanah Musaf service, join us for our Seudat Mitzvah picnic prior to Tashlich, which will be held at Fort Point.

Services at CSZ on the second day of Rosh Hashanah will be followed by an oneg. There will be a large "break fast" oneg at the Unitarian Center after Neilah, the closing service on Yom Kippur.

### Aids Food Drive

One of the reasons we fast on Yom Kippur is to remind ourselves of the hunger of those in need. As we have done for the past six years, CSZ will collect nonperishable food for the AIDS Food Bank at Kol Nidre and through 1 pm on Yom Kippur day. Please bring a bag of food items as part of your Yom Kippur observance.

### Children's Services

On the first day of Rosh Hashanah and on Yom Kippur, there will be children's services in the Chapel of the Unitarian Center. Services for children in Kindergarten through 5th grade will be at 10 am; pre-schoolers will join the service for songs and stories from 10:30-10:45 am.

### Child Care

Child care, by advance reservation only, will be available for all evening and daytime services at the Unitarian Center. Prepayment will be required at the time that reservations are made. This change is necessary to ensure that we have the right number of childcare workers and to avoid overcrowding. Child care cannot be provided for children without prepaid reservations. Please help spread the word that prepaid reservations are necessary. We don't want to turn anyone away, but we will not have extra childcare workers. The back rows of the Main Sanctuary will be reserved for members with small children. Families with infants are welcome to sit there to make it easier to do the "baby bouncing walk" to the lobby.

### Begin Your Year With a Mitzvah!

There are many ways you can help

make the High Holidays happen for everyone. Call our coordinators: Jeff Forman, Logistical Chair (648-0381), Tova Green, Ritual Chair (510/428-0240) and Lane Schickler, Usher Chair (including set-up and pack-up) (255-9679).

### High Holidays Services Schedule

*(Please note that advance tickets are required for all rooms for Erev Rosh Hashanah, Kol Nidre and Yizkor/Neilah. Tickets are not required for any other services.)*

**Selichot**, Saturday, September 16, 8:30 pm, Congregation Sha'ar Zahav.

**Erev Rosh Hashanah**, Sunday, September 24, Unitarian Center, 7:30 pm. Doors open 6:30 pm. **Tickets required.**

**Rosh Hashanah**, Monday, September 25, Unitarian Center, 9:30 am. No tickets required.

- **Picnic**, Fort Point, 1:30 pm. Directions will be provided.
- **Tashlich**, Fort Point, 2:15 pm.

**Rosh Hashanah**, Tuesday, September 26, 9:30 am, Congregation Sha'ar Zahav. No tickets required.

**Kol Nidre**, Tuesday, October 3, Unitarian Center, 7:30 pm. Doors open 6:30 pm. **Tickets required.**

**Yom Kippur**, Wednesday, October 4, Unitarian Center.

- **Shacharit**, 9:30 am.
  - **Study Groups**, 1:15-2:45 pm.
  - **Mincha**, 3:30 pm.
  - **Reading of the Names**, 4:30 pm.
- No tickets required for any of the above Yom Kippur Day services.
- **Yizkor**, 5:15 pm **Tickets required.**
  - **Neilah**, 6:00 pm **Tickets required.**

Please help spread the word that the additional seating rooms require tickets this year for the services noted.

## Monday Morning Minyan

Start the week off right! Join us each Monday morning from 8:30-9:15 in the sanctuary for a brief, spirited service of singing, prayer and Torah study. No reservations or special skills are required and it's a special mitzvah to help complete the minyan. (Please note that minyan will not meet on Monday, September 4, Labor Day.)

## Yom Kippur Food Drive

We will be collecting food for our annual Yom Kippur food drive to benefit Project Open Hand. Items most needed by the Food Bank are soy milk, canned tuna, plastic jars of peanut butter and canned fruits and vegetables. Please bring non-perishable items to Kol Nidre service (Tuesday, October 3) or morning Yom Kippur service (Wednesday, October 4). We will be able to accept food until 1 pm on October 4.

## Welcome Dana!

Dana Katz is CSZ's new Program Coordinator. She previously worked for a year at the Alameda County Department of Public Health. Her skills and interests range from teaching ESL to Israeli dancing, from political action to creating new rituals with teens. She helped coordinate a Black-Jewish Dialogue and spent a summer working with the Jewish Community Response to Family Abuse Task Force in Denver. She looks forward to becoming a part of CSZ and to meeting you. Her hours will be Mondays from 12-5 and Thursdays from 1-4.

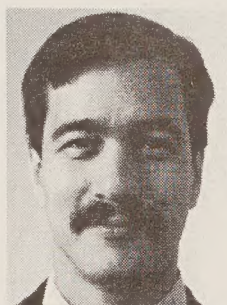
## If You're Under 18, and Play an Instrument ...

The CSZ Klezmer Band is looking for young musicians to play with us on Simchat Torah in October. Kids will work with the members of the band to learn a tune or two, and we'll all play together to keep the dancing lively at the Simchat Torah celebration. To find out more, please call Dev Felder Noily (753-5097).



## Rosh Hashanah, Day of Remembrance

In Gates of Prayer, the prayerbook published by the Reform movement, there is a reading before the Kaddish which begins: "Grief is a great teacher." I have always avoided reading this selection; it makes mourning sound like a growth experience rather than a recovery from loss. I cannot help but recall the words of Rabbi Harold Kushner who, when asked if he had learned how to be more sensitive through the experience of losing his son, replied: "I would rather have remained ignorant."



Rabbi Yoel Kahn

But through my own experience of loss and grieving over these last months, I have learned. I have learned how much I value the comfort and structure provided by the Jewish ritual tradition and our own congregational customs. I have learned how words I thought I had heard hundreds of times before took on fresh depth when they were addressed to me as a mourner; I have learned again and again how blessed we are to be part of this community and this congregation at this time, even as we live in the shadow of our own losses and our ongoing communal tragedy.

On behalf of my mother and my entire family, I want to thank you, the members and extended community of CSZ, for the many, many expressions of comfort and support you gave us. Cards and calls, shiva visits and shiva service leaders, each gesture was cherished. Your gifts of food during shiva sustained us and your memorial donations will help sustain my father's memory. We are working with the lay leadership of the congregation to establish an appropriate memorial at CSZ for my father; we hope to be able to announce its details soon. Please know how much my family and I value and appreciate your caring expressions of sympathy.

Rosh Hashanah is also called *Yom Ha-Zikaron*, the day of remembrance. On it, we remember to ask God to remember us even as we challenge ourselves to remember fully all that has transpired in our own lives since last Rosh Hashanah. I will bring to this year's High Holidays the memory of my father and his gifts and blessings to me, the pain and grief of the last months, and the memory of the nurturance and comfort I found in my spiritual tradition and religious community. Turning in teshuvah towards the new year, my commitment to fully honoring the claims and teachings of each of these memories will, I pray, inform my life in the months and years ahead. Our

parents and loved ones are especially close to us during this time of year. The passage from the prayerbook which I can now appreciate in a way I never did before concludes:

Even when they are gone, the departed are with us, moving us to live as in their higher moments they themselves wished to live. We remember them now; they live in our hearts; they are an abiding blessing.

In our ongoing efforts to make Sha'ar Zahav's High Holiday services reflect the spiritual vigor of our congregation, we have made several changes in our services (and kept most everything else the same!) Several years ago, we decided to move to a triennial cycle of Torah readings for Rosh Hashanah, so that we could include both the ancient and modern Reform readings for the day. We rotate the traditional readings for Rosh Hashanah: first day, Genesis 21 (the story of Hagar and Ishmael), sec-

*Continued on page 8*

## Cards Support Guatemalan Refugees

The San Francisco Jewish Sanctuary Coalition has undertaken a major effort to assist thousands of Guatemalan refugees to return to their homes. Despite continued repression in Guatemala, about 45,000 refugees, who have lived in camps in Mexico since the 1980s, have begun a slow trek home.

As part of this effort, the Coalition has designed a beautiful new Rosh Hashanah card that draws on Jewish teachings. The card, printed in full color, shows a shofar, along with Guatemalan refugees crossing a bridge on their return home. Above, in English, Hebrew, and Spanish, is written a saying from Rabbi Nachman of Bratzlav: "The whole world is a narrow bridge. The main thing is not to fear." Traditional Rosh Hashanah greetings are inside. Proceeds from the card will go to assist refugees in returning home.

Sha'ar Zahav's gift shop is selling the cards for \$8 per package of eight cards. You can also order the cards by mail from the San Francisco Jewish Sanctuary Coalition, P.O. Box 411391, San Francisco, CA 94114-1391. Cost by mail, including shipping, is \$10 per package.

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## Column One... A New Year Begins

— David Stein

Thanks to the wisdom of our earlier va'ad members, our fiscal year begins July 1. This allows me to get used to the position before the Holidays so that I can stand with a bit of confidence before ever overflowing crowds and greet all of you with *L'shanah tovah*. Also, the date gives me a couple of months before I write my monthly columns. So, let's begin.

I often ask myself: What is this thing, this synagogue, our synagogue? What is our shul which along with tens of thousands of others has sustained our people for centuries? What is this Sha'ar Zahav that so many of us strive ceaselessly to build, to improve upon, to embroider, pushing the end point every day as if fearing that we will fail or worse, that we will be finished? Rarefied questions. Ever evolving answers.

For now, Jewish lore and teachings help me with one answer to the question for this Column One. A bit of lore is attributed to Herzl which I learned while living



David Stein

in Israel: *muchrach li, im ani yachol*. If I am able to, I must. If I am able to plow the fields and they need it, I must do it. If I am able to stuff envelopes or serve as usher for the Holidays, I must do it. If I am able to support the shul financially, I must. Strong call to action, isn't it?

An aphorism from Pirke Avot, conveniently part of our High Holiday references, provides another answer: *al shloshah devarim ha-olam omed*. Three things sustain the world. *Torah*, *Avodah*, *G'milut Chasadim*. *Torah*: at once the scrolls, the abstract law and its study. *Avodah*: at once worship and work. *G'milut Chasadim*: doing acts of loving kindness from philanthropy to *bikkur cholim*. By our actions within these three spheres, we nourish the world and subsequently we are nurtured ourselves.

My hopes for the immediate and long term at Sha'ar Zahav involve the spiritual insights of these three sustaining human activities combined with the call to action. Over the next several months I am sure there will be occasions to illustrate how this combination works day and night at Sha'ar Zahav. Here for New Year's in Column One I have a few comments on *avodah* and

how it relates to a call for action.

I relish this term: *avodah*, work and ritual work. Originally, *avodah* was a reference to the work of the priests as they prepared the sacrifices in the Temple. Thank goodness, we no longer have to build fires and prepare animals, although on occasion we do put fires out! But each of us does *avodah*.

We do synagogue work and building the synagogue work. Our *avodah* committees are concerned with ritual, liturgy, festival celebrations and by extension, building, administration, PR, newsletter, and dues.

Volunteer energies and creative meaningful innovations characterize our ritual and liturgical life. Our rabbi is the force holding all this energy together and at the same time stimulating us to create even more. His fostering *avodah* allows us to have chanting services, poetry, dance and a wide variety of music in our ritual life. Such innovations at our shul continually confront each of us, challenging our private notions concerning the right way to pray or what we may consider the right path to spirituality, but in the end we receive new and perhaps better paths for our spirits to follow.

But *avodah* means more to me at Sha'ar Zahav. To my way of thinking *avodah* is how we should think of all volunteer synagogue work. My coupling of the call to action and *avodah* means that as shul members we cannot shrink from doing something because we think the

*Continued on page 8*



CSZ officers and Va'ad (front, l to r) Diana Buchbinder (Administrative Vice President), David Stein (President), Judith Cohen (Program Vice President), (back, l to r) Lisa Katz, David Gellman, Lyssa Friedman, Michael Zimmerman (Treasurer), Jonathan Comisar, Michael Chertok. Photo by Michael Bettinger.

## Onegs

These generous people sponsored onegs during the month of July:

- 7 **Jonathan Funk and John Arnold**, in honor of the visit of Jonathan's parents, Rabbi Julius Funk and Pearl Funk.
- 14 **Jonathan Goldman**, in honor of Lance Weiner's visit from Miami Beach and **Ellen Goldstein**, in honor of the beginning of Deborah Floyd's new life in Washington, DC.
- 21 **Michael Bettinger and Robert Goldstein**, in honor of Ben Brody's acceptance to medical school.
- 28 **The Past Presidents** to honor the new officers and Va'ad.



## Yom Kippur — Our Father? Our King?

— *Nina Wouk for the Ritual Committee*  
**E**xpressions that were natural in the medieval age often make us self-conscious now. For instance, how many modern Jews feel natural addressing God as "Avinu Malkeinu?" Our Father, our King (or our Mother, our Queen—changing the gender doesn't change the basic problem). We may be able to imagine God as a parent, loving or rejecting, but what can we do about God as king? Kings are figures in history or fairy tales. American citizens don't know what it's like to have a king, one individual who can't be voted into or out of office, who decides about war, peace, public works, taxes—nearly everything. For people who live in a monarchy, the difference between a good king and a bad king is very often the difference between life and death. Today, we do not have a close equivalent.

Yet, each year we repeat the prayer, "Avinu, Malkeinu, we have sinned before you." The metaphors of parent and ruler are part of our tradition, part of what makes us a community. Can they also be part of our religion?

Some of us are uncomfortable using either metaphor for the God of our understanding. However, the Torah provides another approach: We can learn from the mistakes of King David's children, Amnon, Tamar and Absalom, who brought tragedy on the small and large communities, their family and the nation. One reason was that they never said "avinu, malkeinu, we have sinned before you."

Amnon, a teenager, became sexually obsessed with his half-sister Tamar. When a friend suggested a way for him to get her alone, he acted on the suggestion and raped her. Then, projecting his self-disgust on her, he ran away

from her, from the family and from Jerusalem. Tamar, devastated, confided in her brother Absalom, who took revenge for her. He lured Amnon to a party and killed him.

To say "We have sinned," not "I have sinned," means to acknowledge group identity, group obligations. Making amends means reconstituting the group by accepting responsibility. If Amnon had thought of himself as part of a community that included Tamar, he could never have raped her. Absalom, in killing Amnon, acted for himself and Tamar, oblivious to any wider responsibility. Tamar, too, could have acted differently. Was it fear of being blamed that made her turn to her brother, not her father, for help? As Amnon trusted a friend who encouraged the worst in him, Tamar trusted a loyal but rash brother, and Absalom trusted only himself.

King David's children needed leadership to restore community and justice. David had the authority to discipline Amnon and defend Tamar. He had the power to correct the transgression, allowing the family to start acting in terms of mutual responsibility, not personal passion. But, lacking a full understanding, David acted only to preserve stability. He exiled Absalom, in punishment for killing his brother. This break in the family later became a civil war.

David's failure of leadership came directly from his children's refusal to approach him. Did he seem unavailable, threatening, or useless to his children, as God may seem to us? Even so, they bear the responsibility of not having asked for his help. Thus they lost the chance to become a community through accepting responsibility

and making amends. This is the chance that Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur give us every year. If we can learn from the mistakes of King David's children, we will use that chance, and turn to God through or despite any metaphor.

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## Eighteen Years Ago...

**W**ith this issue of the JGF, we begin a new column honoring CSZ's past, by providing a glimpse from the CSZ archives.

In September 1977, the *Gaily Forward*, in its premier issue, reported that CSZ had finally succeeded in placing an ad in the *San Francisco Jewish Bulletin* (now the *Northern California Jewish Bulletin*). This was no small achievement, as initial efforts to place the ad were met with the following rejection: "The enclosed check (for the ad) is being returned because the ad that you submitted is of a controversial and discriminatory nature..."

Of course, regular readers of the *Jewish Bulletin* know that CSZ has been placing ads and has been featured in prominent articles for many years now. Thanks to all those who fought in one of CSZ's first battles.

## Annual Blood Drive

**T**he Congregational High Holidays Blood Drive will be Saturday, September 30, 10 am to 2 pm at Irwin Memorial Blood Bank, Turk and Masonic streets in San Francisco. If you are unable to donate blood, please bring homemade treats or come by to give volunteers moral support. For more information, call Stephan Howard (567-2886) or Dona Rabinowitz (864-5432). If you call the Blood Bank appointment desk (749-6643), be sure to mention that it is for the CSZ Blood Drive.

## New Fall Adults Classes

**CSZ** co-sponsors adult education courses with Lehrhaus Judaica, the adult Jewish education school for the Bay Area. In addition to *Prayerbook Hebrew* and *Introduction to Jewish Faith and Heritage* at CSZ on Wednesday evenings this fall, Lehrhaus offers a wide variety of classes in San Francisco, the East Bay and Peninsula. CSZ members will receive a Lehrhaus catalogue in the mail soon.

## Members' Yahrzeits

2	John Golebowski
15	David Pierce
18	Penny Dachinger
19	Gershon Lieberman
27	Drew Siegel
29	Frank Hyman



## August Va'ad Meeting

— *Dona Rabinowitz, Recorder*  
 Ida Kuluk was approved to the Dues Committee, to eventually allow Mike Zimmerman to retire as Chair. Our "cushion" was not as jeopardized as originally feared. We are actually about \$10,000 ahead of schedule in pledges vs. projections.

Lane Schickler is our delegate to the World Congress of Gay and Lesbian Jewish Organizations. Communication via e-mail has been recommended as a way to cut costs.

Lyssa Friedman has joined the CSZ Task Force on the Role of the Non-Jew in the Synagogue.

A recent letter from Mike Rankin says the UAHC Biennial resolution on legitimizing same-sex marriages will not be brought to the UAHC Biennial delegates for a vote because the delegates have already passed resolutions supporting the hiring of lesbian and gay rabbis and supporting lesbian and gay rights in general.

**Rabbi's Report:** This spring, two openly lesbian rabbis were ordained and placed, including our own Leslie Bergson. Mona Alfi, our rabbinical intern, leaves us at the end of this month. We appreciate her service to CSZ. An e-mail

Torah study and on-line discussion is being coordinated by Anne Ludden.

Sixteen new member units (20+ people) were approved for membership. Many of our new members underwent lifecycle ceremonies at CSZ.

Spread the word that High Holidays additional seating rooms now require tickets.

Dana Katz was hired as part-time programming coordinator and youth chavurah leader as funded by the Ma'ayan campaign.

## Spiritual Support for People with HIV/AIDS

Our bi-monthly Shabbat afternoon gathering for CSZ members living with HIV will meet on Saturday afternoon, September 16, 3-5 pm. If you are living with HIV, or the partner of a person with HIV, please join us for a quiet afternoon of shmoozing, company, noshing, discussion and prayer. We will meet in the library of the synagogue. Please RSVP to the office by September 14.

## Va'ad Minutes

June and July Va'ad minutes will not be summarized in the *Forward*, but are available through the CSZ office.

## Parade Celebration

— *Nathan Robinson*

Once again, the contingent from Sha'ar Zahav enlivened the Freedom Day Parade. Our fabulous Klezmer Band joyfully serenaded parade-goers from atop a canopied truck. Many members of the synagogue, with their families and friends, followed dancing both to the Klezmer music and Israeli dance music. Our enthusiasm was clearly shared by the spectators who swayed and clapped along with us as we made our way down Market Street.

Following is a list of those who helped to make our participation a success—hopefully no one has been overlooked:

**Klezmer Band:** Melinda Basker, Johanna Ceapach Choinn, Ellie Cohen, Jonathan Comisar, Gene Eichenbaum, Dev Felder Noily, Sara Felder Noily, Jeff Friedman, Sharma L. Gaponoff, Ellen Gierson, Simon Glinsky, Ora Prochovnick.

**Contingent Monitors:** Judith Cohen, Jonathan Comisar, Bob Gordon, Joe Hample, Stephan Howard, Allyce Kimerling, Steven King, Paul Margolis, Paul Nemrow, Frances Rotolo, Howard Steierman, Larry Wexler.

**Drivers:** Jim and Ethan Frazin, Frances Rotolo and Allyce Kimerling, Susan Spott and Ida Kuluk.

**Decorations:** Jonathan Comisar, Rafael Gonzalez.

**Food Coordinator:** Allan Giannini.

**Insurance Consultant:** Tom Rothgiesser.

**Legal Consultants:** Tiela Chalmers, Ora Prochovnick.

**Publicity:** Jonathan Comisar, Nathan Robinson.

**Truck Canopy:** Sharma L. Gaponoff.

Finally, special thanks to:

**Noah's Bagels** for donating bagels and shmears.

**Randy and Paula Hirsch** for loaning us their sound equipment and donating their valuable time so that everyone could hear us!

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## Contributions

Sha'ar Zahav welcomes all contributions of all sizes to mark any event and to add to any of our funds. Contributions will be acknowledged in the *Forward* unless otherwise requested.

Donations were made to Sha'ar Zahav's funds in the past months by the following contributors:

### *18/10 Celebration*

**Elsbeth Couch**, in honor of Rabbi Yoel Kahn and Congregation Sha'ar Zahav.  
Special thanks to **Randy Jensen** of Sweet Inspiration for the donation of a delicious dessert buffet.

### *AIDS Fund*

**Allan Berenstein**, in memory of Bob Miller.  
**Arnie Jackson**, in memory of Marc Saretti.

### *Albert (Bryn) Stern Memorial Fund for the House in Order Manual*

**David Weinstein**, in honor of Ben Brody's acceptance to medical school.  
**David Weinstein**, to celebrate the lives of Betty Horowitz and Leonard Dexter.  
**David Weinstein**, in celebration of the birthdays of Carolyn Pines, Hannah Vera Pines-Schwartz and Batya Kalis.  
**David Weinstein**, in celebration of the life of Bryn Stern on the occasion of his yahrzeit.  
**Ida Cooper**, in memory of Bryn Stern on the occasion of his yahrzeit.  
**David Weinstein**, with prayers for Alice Efferth.

### *Bikkur Cholim Fund*

**Mike Rankin**, in honor of the 50th anniversary of Rabbi Erwin & Agnes Herman.  
**Mike Rankin**, in memory of Hy Elman.  
**Mike Rankin**, with appreciation to Willis Howe and his lovely assistants Walt and Colin for their warm Russian River hospitality to Mike Rankin and the East Bay Vets Irish Football and Needlepoint Society.

### *Building Fund*

**Robin Henry Fein**, in memory of Helen Bloom Fein.

### *Chesir-Stein Music Fund*

**Ron Wilmot**, in honor of David Stein's installation as president.  
**Jonathan Funk & John Arnold**, in memory of Hy Elman.

### *Children's Education Fund*

**Susan L. Feldman & Jeffrey J. Argentos**, in celebration of the arrival of Jonah Lev Kudler-Flam.

**Paul Cohen & Bob Gutterman**, in memory of Hy Elman.

**Eric & Aaron Cooper-Keitel**, in honor of Cody Fine's becoming bar mitzvah.

### *General Fund*

**Mary Lou Johnson**, in honor of Johanna Ceapach Choinn.  
**Carol & Jordan Levitin**, in honor of Ron Wilmot's birthday.  
**Pamela Miller**, in memory of Ann Miller.  
**Dvora Honigstein**, in memory of Miriam Honigstein.  
**Jim Frazin**, in memory of Bee Shapiro.  
**Richard Inlander**, in honor of Terrance Cheung's graduation.  
**Jonathan Funk & John Arnold**, in honor of Tiela Chalmers' presidency.  
**Allan Berenstein**, in memory of Sadie Radetsky.  
**Howard Steierman**, in thanks for CSZ's welcome to him and his family on the first anniversary of his coming out.  
**Nancy Meyer & Marilyn O'Keeffe**, in honor of Tiela Chalmers' outgoing and David Stein's incoming presidencies.  
**Marilyn & Aaron Levine**.  
**Perry Paker**, in memory of Gussie Paker.  
**Vicki Berman & Felicia Donatelli**, in honor of their wedding.  
**Ron Wilmot**, in appreciation of Tiela's years of dedication to CSZ.

**Judy Schwartz & Carolyn Pines**, in memory of Hy Elman.  
**Suzanne Loebel**, in memory of David Loebel.  
**Stephanie Hannaford**, in memory of Sidney Hannaford.  
**Smokey Cormier**, in appreciation of CSZ's services.  
**John Arnold**, in honor of Jonathan Funk's birthday.  
**Anonymous**, in honor of Alice Prussin.  
**Mike Zimmerman**, in memory of Alan Zimmerman.  
**Corinne & Stan James**, in memory of Hy Elman.  
**Raphael Hoch**, in memory of Clara Silverman Hoch.  
**Arnie Jackson**, in memory of Toby Jackson.  
**Eric & Aaron Cooper-Keitel**, in honor of David Stein's presidency.  
**Peter J. Steinberg**, in memory of Wally and Rose Steinberg.  
**Ida Kuluk**, in memory of Adele Kuluk and Andrea Goldberg.  
**Alan & Jacqueline Manne**, in honor of Batya Kalis' birthday.  
**Jerry Rosenstein**, in honor of the High Holidays.  
**Eric & Aaron Cooper-Keitel**, in honor of Leslie Bergson's ordination and new job.  
**Eli Weinstein**, in memory of Brian Shield.  
**Eric & Aaron Cooper-Keitel**, in apprecia-

*Continued on page 7*



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*Continued from page 6*

tion of Ron Lezell's friendship.

**Allen Brandstein**, in memory of Hy Elman.

**Misha Cohen**, in memory of Jacqueline Freeman Cohen.

**Seth Charney**, in memory of Morris Charney.

**Arlene Elster**, in memory of Pearl Elster.

**Mrs. Ruth Oppen**, in memory of Don Sela.

**Ronald Bachman, MD.**

### *Kalis Inclusive Liturgy Fund*

**Ellen Lewin**, in memory of Beatrice Sheinman.

### *Library Fund*

**Robert K. Tat**, in memory of Sylvia Shorstein.

## Pledges and Gifts to the Ma'ayan '95 Campaign

As of June 9, the Ma'ayan Campaign has raised a total of \$36,000. Those who have pledged or contributed since the May *Forward* was published are:

### *Zahav (Gold)*

(\$500-\$999)

Steven Horowitz

### *Kesef (Silver)*

(\$250-\$499)

Anonymous (2)

Sam Thal

### *Arad (Bronze)*

(\$100-\$249)

Steven Berlin

Paul Blanc

Rachel Mailman

Richard Sinkoff

Susan Stahl

### *Ma'ayanot (All Other Gifts)*

Anonymous

Ann Bauman

Henry Carrey

Helen and Gil Cohen

Robert Cohen

Rich Crane

Barak Gale

Simon Glinsky

Nancy and Larry Goldberg

Shirley Liberman

Judy Macks

Ora Prochovnick

### *Prayerbook Fund*

**Jonathan Funk & John Arnold**, in honor of Leslie Bergson's ordination.

### *Rabbi's Discretionary Fund*

**Malke Singer & Chrys Goodell**, with thanks to Rose Katz and Rabbi Kahn.

**Rabbi Joseph Edelmet.**

**Ursula K. Sherman**, in honor of Rabbi Kahn's 10th anniversary with CSZ.

**Elizabeth Landsberg & Gordon Dean**, in honor of Rabbi Kahn for his support and guidance for their marriage.

**Dr. James D. Halpern**, in memory of Sara Halpern.

**Brian & Dorothy Landsberg**, in honor of the marriage of Elizabeth Landsberg & Gordon Dean.

**Neil Hart**, in memory of Hy Elman.

### *Torah Fund*

**Lucy Fine & Shuli Goodman**, in honor of Cody Fine's becoming bar mitzvah.

**Sidney Fine**, in honor of Cody Fine's becoming bar mitzvah.

### *In Memory of Dr. Allan Kahn*

Donald Abrams

David Stein and Alex Ingersoll

Allen Harris and David Gary

Jonathan Funk and John Arnold

Rabbi Stacy Offner and Nancy Abramson

Marianna Miller

Stanley and Rita Halpern

Jason Gaber

Max and Mildred Segal

Norman and Marion Greenman

Rabbi Stuart Kelman and Victoria Kelman

Walter Leiss

Linda Gerard and Daniel Grossman

Betty Bellm

Rabbi Patricia Karlin-Neumann and

George Karlin-Neumann

Richard and Susan Goldwasser

Lois J. Durham

Frank Yellin

Carolyn Pines and Judy Schwartz

Howard Steierman

Violet Keeperman

Steven Elman

Lolma Olson and Beth Reed

Daniel and Joan Burkhard

Stacey Shuster and Joan Lefkowitz

Vivian Greenman

Eric and Aaron Cooper-Keitel

Paul Nemrow and Jeff Forman

Steven M. Cohn

Allen Brandstein

Seth Charney

Rabbi Jerry and Joy Danzig

Neil Hart

Ellen Lewin and Lizabeth Goodman

## New Members

The Membership Committee is pleased to announce that our congregation gained the following new members this month. A warm welcome to the latest people to join our family:

**Jennifer Behr**

**Margarita Bekker**

**Arthur Cohen**

**Carrie Gray Costello, Alex Pekka Hall & Nina Yang Hall**

**Fred Fishman**

**Seth Frohman**

**Kirsten Gustavson & Amy Scharf**

**Tess Johnson**

**Gerard Llamado**

**Chaya Rivka Mayerson**

**Ronald Moskowitz**

**Sandy O'Neill**

**Lisa Ochs**

**Mark Oliver**

**Elaine Porter, Ann Ritzma, Benjamin Ritzma Porter & Noah Ritzma Porter**

**Rick Shelton**

We are grateful to see our congregation grow. It is up to all of us to help our new members feel welcome as they become active participants in our community.

## Prospective Members —Join Us!

Have you recently started attending services at CSZ, or even been coming regularly for years, but hesitated to actually take the plunge and join CSZ as a member? Do you have any specific questions about what membership means, or how to become more involved? If so, the Membership Committee invites you to come celebrate Havdalah, see our highly-praised video (recently produced as part of our 18/10 Celebration), and schmooze over dessert with synagogue leaders. This first-ever event will be held in the CSZ Oneg Room at 7 pm on Saturday, October 7. If you are already a member, be sure to pass the word to those non-member friends who have occasionally expressed interest in finding out more about CSZ. Flyers will be also be available at Shabbat services and on the Membership table during Rosh Hashanah.



## President's Column

*Continued from page 3*

task is too great or the challenges insurmountable. We need more space for Shabbat services. We need more education and pastoral support. Big ticket goals. Not achievable overnight or by one person alone. Are they too big for us and so we ignore them? Or, do we commit ourselves to them now so that they can be achieved incrementally? If I am able to support the shul financially through dues and contributions, building assessments, Ma'ayan and High Holiday appeals, then I must. There is no other choice. Because doing so fulfills our obligation to *avodah*.

Further, my interpretation of *avodah* provides me with support for an oft-repeated proposal: We need a commitment from our members to volunteer for, say, 20 hours a year, just as members volunteer 1% of our income as dues. Members can choose what those hours are and how to fulfill the commitment in a number of ways: visiting the sick, tutoring b'nai mitzvah students, serving on the newsletter committee, or anything from a cafeteria of possibilities.

What is this thing, this Sha'ar Zahav? If you follow my logic one answer is that it must provide us with a chance to perform *avodah*: a commitment to its nurturing and growth so that we are nurtured in return.

The Holidays are a time for reflection and dedication. I pray that each of us rededicates ourselves to *torah*, *avodah* and *g'milit chasadim*, and hearkens to the call for action.

*L'shanah tovah.*

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

### Anniversaries

- |    |                                     |
|----|-------------------------------------|
| 1  | Jeffrey Rubin & Frank Bush          |
| 1  | Debra Chasnoff & Kim Klausner       |
| 4  | Alan Michels & Laureen Ok Sun Kim   |
| 5  | Susan Gelmis & Ilene Dick           |
| 8  | Claudia Bernard & Howard Herman     |
| 13 | Randy Heilbrun & Lou Boudreax       |
| 13 | Nancy Meyer & Marilyn O'Keeffe      |
| 13 | Sara & Dev Felder Noily             |
| 13 | Brooke Shields & Debbie Wald        |
| 18 | Alice Prussin & Smokey Cormier      |
| 19 | Richard Inlander & Ben Schalit      |
| 22 | Ronald Wilmot & Jim O'Donnell       |
| 23 | Batya Kalis & Marion Trentman       |
| 26 | Janet Seldon & Shari Cohen          |
| 29 | Shelley Eisenman & Julie Moed       |
| 30 | Susan Unger & Pam Erwin             |
| 30 | Blanche Blachman & Adrienne Forshay |

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

## Rabbi's Column

*Continued from page 2*

ond day, Genesis 22 (the Akedah, the binding of Isaac) and the Reform *machzor's* assigned readings of Genesis 22 and Genesis 1 (creation). We read two of these three Torah portions each year. This Rosh Hashanah, we will read Genesis 21 on the first day and Genesis 22 on the second day.

On Yom Kippur, we will have two afternoon services. In addition to our familiar afternoon service, which will include a Torah reading this year, we will also be offering an experimental meditation/Kabbalistic-inspired service. The High Holiday handout will also be expanded to include a revised "Morning Blessings" section for the opening of the daily liturgy and some new selections for Yizkor.

If you are exploring Judaism, are not quite sure what the High Holidays are about or simply want to "get in the mood," please join us for Selichot services on Saturday night, September 16, 8:30 pm at CSZ. Selichot is always on the Saturday night preceding Rosh Hashanah and initiates the "warm up" week before the Holidays begin. Our evening will include Havdalah, study of some of the key texts and themes of the Holidays, including the Shofar and the Yom Kippur penitential prayers, a late night service and, of course, shmoozing and dessert.

Dan and Adam join me in extending best wishes for a Shana Tova. May you and your loved ones be inscribed for a New Year of goodness and blessing.

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## Birthdays

- 1 Elizabeth Goodman
- 1 Tom Rothgiesser
- 2 Jeff Friedman
- 2 Dona Rabinowitz
- 2 Bonnie Bishop
- 2 Simma Lieberman
- 3 David Israels
- 5 Karren Shorofsky
- 8 Ellen Press
- 9 Anna Lisker
- 9 Jeremy Hoffman
- 9 Edward Lopatin
- 9 Mark Weisman
- 10 Sandy O'Neill
- 11 Lawrence Helman
- 12 Robin Leonard
- 12 Nicole Bloom
- 13 Susan Foster
- 13 William Snow
- 13 Janet Seldon
- 13 Paul Margolis
- 15 Mark Oliver
- 17 Rachel Mailman
- 17 Arlene Elster
- 19 Sophia Klain-Chavez
- 19 Robert Tat
- 20 Elizabeth Katz
- 20 Mark Klaiman
- 21 Claire Hoch-Frohmman
- 21 Jeff Mendelsohn
- 21 Steven Cronenwalt
- 21 Richard Mehler
- 21 Janine Baer
- 22 Raena Frohlich
- 22 Roslyn Fuerman
- 23 Marianne Ades
- 23 Callain Ludden-Moses
- 27 Sharma L. Gaponoff
- 28 Shelley Adler
- 28 Alex Pekka Hall
- 28 John Atteridg
- 28 Ellen Goldstein
- 28 Daphne Stuart
- 28 Arthur Cohen
- 29 Susan Sturner
- 29 Simon Glinsky
- 29 Judith Wolfe
- 30 Michael Portman
- 30 Lisa Ochs

## Naches

To **Mike Zimmerman** on his new position as Director of Foundation Relations at the American Red Cross.

To **Ron Wilmot** on raising over \$100,000 for AIDS programs during the past seven years.

To **David Shaber** on the exhibition of his painting at the SOMAR Gallery.

To **Elaine Porter, Ann Ritzma & brother Benjamin Ritzma Porter** on the birth of Noah Ritzma Porter.

To **Michelle & David Auerbach-Brode** on the birth of **Zachary Nathan Auerbach Brode**.

To **Lolma Olson** on her graduation from California Institute of Integral Studies in Organizational Development and Transformation and the opening of her firm **Sage Consulting** which provides consultation, facilitation and training services to the health care industry.

To **Ben Brody** on beginning medical school in Milwaukee.

To **Johanna Ceapach Choinn** on her entrance into the covenant.

To **Rachel Maclachlan** on her entrance into the covenant.

To **Armando Miranda-Mendoza** on his graduation from Boalt Law School.

## Classifieds

**HOUSECLEANING:** Home and business. Reliable, efficient, reasonable. Call Ikka (285-8309).

**BREAST CANCER GROUP:** Imagery, Spirituality, Connection. Meets twice a month, fee negotiable. Syd Strong, Ph.D. (510/528-1235).

**GET AWAY** to beautiful Sonoma wine country. Week or weekend. Stunning 2BR 2BA wooded hillside home, vineyard and mountain views, pool, fireplace, BBQ, privacy. Sleeps six. 90 minutes north. (587-5159).

**ALL THINGS MACINTOSH:** Quicken • Word • Excel • Hard disk tune-up • Computerize your business. Roslyn Fuerman (510/526-1209).

**COMPUTER/WP MAVEN** needed to help new CSZ librarian at home in DOS Shell. Free dinner in East Bay. Call the CSZ office for information.

**LESBIAN/GAY FAMILY COUNSELING SERVICES** Marsha Blachman, LCSW, Audrey Martin, MFCC, Margie Cohen, LCSW and Lesley Sternin, LCSW now offering individual, relationship and family counseling for families parenting through the life-cycle. We're independent practitioners with East Bay offices. (510/412-7014).

To **Eric Temple** on being awarded a one year Fellowship at **Columbia University**.

To **Robin Leonard & Lee Ryan** on celebrating their 15th anniversary.

To **Deborah Chasnoff & Kim Clausner** on celebrating their 15th anniversary.

To **Marion Trentman & Batya Kalis** on celebrating their 13th anniversary.

To **Carole Migden & Chris Arguedos** on celebrating their 10th anniversary.

To **Beth Ross & Laura Trupin** on celebrating their 10th anniversary.

## Women's Chavurah Summer Events

With the Brotherhood, the Women's Chavurah co-sponsored CSZ's first team participation in the San Francisco AIDS Walk. A total of 13 participants registered, and \$1,000 in pledges were collected. Unfortunately, since we did not have the required 20 members to get a "team table," we had to meet at a prearranged site elsewhere, which some of our people never found. Our apologies to any who looked for us unsuccessfully. Next year we'll be better organized.

Last month, seven women, two children and a dog enjoyed a terrific potluck picnic at Live Oak Park in Berkeley. While our numbers were small, our appetites and enthusiasm were not, and the weather was spectacular. We all agreed another East Bay event needs to be planned soon. Suggest one! (We'd love for someone to volunteer their home for another Havdalah potluck or games party.)

## Women's Chavurah Seeks East Bay Co-Chair

The Women's Chavurah is very much in need of a co-chair, preferably someone living in the East Bay, to help the Chair, Dona Rabinowitz, and our Young Women's Focus Group leader, Debbie Gelber, plan and coordinate activities for our diverse community of women. If you are interested, and a CSZ member, please contact the Chair (864-5432) or CSZ office.



*The Jewish Gaily Forward* is published by Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 220 Danvers at Caselli, San Francisco, California 94114, 861-6932. To request permission to reprint material, call Robin Leonard (386-7876).

Members of the congregation receive the *Forward*. For \$18/year, nonmembers will receive a *Forward* subscription.

#### Members of the Newsletter Committee

*Co-chairs:* Rose Katz and Robin Leonard

*Editorial Coordinator:* Batya Kalis (821-3855)

*Layout Coordinator:* Rose Katz

*Editing/Proofreading/Layout:* Alison Cohen, Joe Hample, Stephan Howard, Richard Inlander, Robin Leonard, Martha Moon, Dona Rabinowitz, Allyn Stern, Sam Thal

*Photography:* Michael Bettinger

*Advertising:* Roslyn Fuerman (510/526-1209 or froslyn@aol.com)

*Distribution:* Joe Hample, coordinator; Alison Cohen, Virginia Donohue, Leora Eisenberg, Stan Kern, Mark Klaiman, Gordon Osser, Sam Thal, David Weinstein, Eli Weinstein, Sylvia Weisenberg

*Typesetting:* David Lester, Mouse Type Inc.

*Printing:* Genesis Printing & Graphics

**Display Ads** are \$15 per column inch for nonmembers and \$10 per column inch for members, with discounts available for size and frequency. Ads should be camera ready; any ads that require typesetting, camera and/or artwork will be subject to a one-time production charge.

**Classified Ads** are \$5 for up to 20 words, plus \$1 for each 10 additional words. No personals accepted.

Payment must accompany ad and should be sent to Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 220 Danvers at Caselli, San Francisco, California 94114, marked: attention *Forward* advertising. The *Forward* reserves the right to reject any ad for reasons of taste.

## Synagogue Information

### Rabbi Yoel Kahn

#### Officers:

*President,* David Stein (863-4769 or david.stein@internetmci.com)  
*Administrative Vice President,*  
Diana Buchbinder  
*Program Vice President,* Judith Cohen  
*Treasurer,* Michael Zimmerman  
*Recorder,* Dona Rabinowitz

### Va'ad (Board) Members:

Michael Chertok  
Jonathan Comisar  
Lyssa Friedman  
David Gellman  
Lisa Katz  
Ed Lopatin  
Carolyn Pines  
Lane Schickler  
Susan Tubbesing

#### CSZ Staff:

*Office Manager,* Lea Salem  
*Kadimah Principal,* Phyllis Mintzer  
*Rabbi Kahn's Asst.,* Amy Clark  
*Program Coord.,* Dana Katz

#### Committee Chairs:

*Archives,* open  
*ARZA contact,* Ron Lezell  
*Bequests and Donations,* Richard Inlander  
*Bikkur Cholim,* David Shaber  
*Brotherhood,* Stephan Howard  
*Building,* Ellen Gierson (510/658-8713)  
*Bylaws,* Edward Pollock  
*Cemetery,* Richard Inlander  
*Cookbook Project,* Robin Leonard and Rose Katz  
*Dues,* Lisa Katz and Sara Haber  
*Education,* Claire Rappoport  
*Endowment Fund,* Richard Inlander  
*Finance,* Michael Zimmerman

*Fine Arts,* Alice Prussin  
*Fundraising,* open  
*Gift Shop,* Jeff Rubin  
*Infant-Toddler Chavurah,* David Couch  
*Leadership Development,* Irene Ogus  
*Long-Range Planning,* Allan Gold  
*Membership,* Sara Haber and Larry Wexler  
*Newsletter,* Rose Katz and Robin Leonard  
*Oneg,* Allan Giannini  
*Past Presidents Council,* Merry Luskin  
*Personnel,* Diana Buchbinder  
*Pre-school Chavurah,* Nancy Meyer  
*Public Relations,* Sharyn Saslafsky  
*Religious School,* Ron Lezell & Martha Rosett  
*Ritual,* Ora Prochovnick  
*Social Action,* Eloise Magenheimer  
*Volunteer Coordinator,* open  
*Women's Chavurah,* Dona Rabinowitz

*Members wishing to contact any Va'ad member or committee chair are invited to obtain his or her number from the synagogue office.*

**Office Hours:** Monday–Friday from 9 am to 3 pm. Please call the synagogue office at 861-6932.

**Emergency Number:** In an emergency, the congregation can be contacted outside of office hours by calling 861-6938.

**Bikkur Cholim:** If you or a friend who is a member of Sha'ar Zahav are ill in the hospital or at home, and would like to have the rabbi or a member of the Bikkur Cholim Committee call or visit, please notify the synagogue office.

**Member** of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations (Mike Rankin, Robin Leonard, liaisons) and of the World Congress of Gay and Lesbian Jewish Organizations (Lane Schickler, liaison).

**Services** are held every Friday evening beginning at 8:15 pm (except as noted), with an Oneg Shabbat following services. Services are generally held on the second Saturday of each month at 10:00 am—check calendar for each month. Morning Minyan meets Mondays at 8:30 am.

**Gift Shop Hours:** Fridays, 7:30–8:05 pm.

**Library Hours:** Open during office hours, and 30 minutes before and after Friday night services.

**Congregation Sha'ar Zahav** (Congregation of the Golden Gate) is located in the Upper Market District of San Francisco at 220 Danvers at Caselli, which is one block south of the intersection of 18th and Market streets. By public transport, take MUNI bus 33 Stanyan to 18th and Danvers and walk one block south on Danvers to Caselli.

**Don't forget the High Holidays Blood Drive  
Saturday, September 30, 10 am–2 pm, Irwin Blood Bank**



**1 Friday**  
6 Elul  
• 8:15 pm, Shabbat Service: Larry Wexler & Ruth Schoenbach

**2 Saturday**  
7 Elul

**3 Sunday**  
8 Elul

**4 Monday**  
9 Elul

Labor Day, office closed,  
no Morning Minyan  
• 6 pm, Healing Service

**5 Tuesday**  
10 Elul  
• 7 pm, Ensemble rehearsal

**6 Wednesday**  
11 Elul  
• 7 pm, Newsletter editing

**7 Thursday**  
12 Elul  
• 7 pm, Kadimah committee

**8 Friday**  
13 Elul  
• 7:30 pm, Niggun Service  
• 8:15 pm, Shabbat Service: Rabbi Kahn & Eileen Levy

**9 Saturday**  
14 Elul  
• 10:30 am, Shabbat Service: Frank Yellin

**10 Sunday**  
15 Elul

**11 Monday**  
16 Elul  
• 8:30 am, Morning Minyan  
• 6:30 pm, Va'ad meeting  
• 7 pm, Newsletter layout and proofreading

**12 Tuesday**  
17 Elul  
• 7 pm, Ensemble rehearsal

**13 Wednesday**  
18 Elul

**14 Thursday**  
19 Elul

**15 Friday**  
20 Elul  
• 8:15 pm, East Bay Service: Larry Wexler  
• 8:15 pm, Shabbat Service: Brian Besser & Lyssa Friedman

**16 Saturday**  
21 Elul  
• 9:30 am, Kadimah (first session of the year)  
• 3 pm, Spiritual support for members with HIV  
• 8:30 pm, Selichot Service

**17 Sunday**  
22 Elul

**18 Monday**  
23 Elul  
• 8:30 am, Morning Minyan  
• 6 pm, Healing Service

**19 Tuesday**  
24 Elul  
• 7 pm, Ensemble rehearsal  
• 7 pm, Membership committee

**20 Wednesday**  
25 Elul

**21 Thursday**  
26 Elul  
• 6:30 pm, Bikkur Cholim meeting  
• 7 pm, Newsletter distribution

**22 Friday**  
27 Elul  
• 8:15 pm, Shabbat Service: Nina Wouk & Gary Sokol

**23 Saturday**  
28 Elul  
• 9:30 am, Kadimah

**24 Sunday**  
29 Elul  
**Erev Rosh Hashanah**  
• 7:30 pm, Unitarian Center

**25 Monday**  
1 Tishri

**Rosh Hashanah**  
• 9:30 am, Shacharit  
• 10 am, Children's Service  
• 11:30 am, Musaf Service  
• 1:30 pm, Seudat Mitzvah  
• 2:15 pm, Tashlich

**26 Tuesday**  
2 Tishri  
**Rosh Hashanah**  
• 9:30 am, Shacharit Service  
• 11:30 am, Musaf Service  
• 7 pm, Ensemble rehearsal

**27 Wednesday**  
3 Tishri

**28 Thursday**  
4 Tishri  
• 6:30 pm, Ritual committee

**29 Friday**  
5 Tishri  
• 8:15 pm, Shabbat Service: Rabbi Kahn & Daniel Chesir

**30 Saturday**  
6 Tishri  
• 9:30 am, Kadimah  
• 10 am, Blood Drive

**Note: Gray areas indicate religious services.**

## OCTOBER FORWARD DEADLINES

### FOR ADVERTISING MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

To place a display ad, call Roslyn Fuerman (510/526-1209). To place a classified ad, call the office.

### FOR ARTICLES MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

**Note: Article deadline is one week early to accommodate High Holiday schedule.** Please submit it both on 3½-inch disk and hard copy on paper double spaced. Write "Attn. Gaily Forward" on top and mail to CSZ. No deadline extensions without advance permission from the editorial coordinator (821-3855) or [kalis@out.org](mailto:kalis@out.org).

## East Bay Services

9/15 Ed Tanovitz, 1612 E. 38th St., Oakland, 510/482-4825.

10/20 Location TBA.

11/17 Location TBA.

Please join us for dinner at a nearby restaurant. For details call Shelley Spiro, 510/482-5967.



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